

NEWSNOTES

ID Card Section open first Saturdays

Effective Oct. 4, Human Resources Military, Military Personnel Services, Fort Dix will expand its ID Card services hours at the ID section on Alabama Avenue, Bldg. 5418, Center Wing, to the first Saturday of each month for a three-month trial. The hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information or questions, please contact Luis Lopez at (609) 562-3306 or HRM ID Card at (609) 562-2177.

Hispanic Heritage Fest set for Sept. 27

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Fort Dix, in cooperation with TMEG's Funny Biz/Spread the Laughter Tour, is hosting a festival and concert featuring Dominican merengue singer Raul Acosta and his group Oro Solido.

The event will take place Sept. 27 from noon to 5 p.m. (rain or shine) at Doughboy Field.

The event is free and open to the public.

Those wishing to attend must have valid identification such as a driver's license or a passport.

Other performances will include Bachata Asur, Sketch Comedy by Llegamos and special guest, Grammy award winning artist, Frankie Negrón. There will be Tango Dancers from Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas as well as Peruvian and Salsa dancers. Free Salsa dance lessons after the performance.

For more information call 562-6772.



A NEW CHAPTER — Command Sgt. Maj. Kurtis Timmer, of the 99th Regional Support Command, left, unfurls the new colors of the unit during the activation ceremony held at Sharp field, Saturday, Sept. 20. Holding the new colors is Maj. Gen. Alan Bell, Deputy Commander, US Army Reserve.

New 99th Regional Support Command stands up at Fort Dix

Pascual Flores
Fort Dix PAO Staff

On a sunny afternoon with a gentle breeze blowing and 13 state flags flanking the Statue of the Ultimate Weapon, the 99th Regional Support Command (RSC), United States Army Reserve conducted its activation ceremony at Sharp Field becoming the latest addition to an expanding list of military units assigned to Fort Dix.

Maj. Gen. William Monk, III, who currently serves as the commander of both the 99th Regional Readiness Command and the activating RSC, received the 99th's colors for first time during the ceremony. The colors, which symbolically authorize full operational authority and

responsibility to the new commander.

"The 99th is paving the way for Soldiers and missions for the times to come," said Bell.

Selected for this two-fold status on April 19, 2007, Monk assumed the responsibility for the command and readiness of more than 12,000 Army Reserve Soldiers located in the five states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Delaware as well as the future mission to provide administrative, logistical, and facilities management support across a 13-state region that stretches from Maine to Virginia.

"It has been a long journey to arrive at the juncture where we are today — officially activating the first of the four RSCs — the 99th Regional Support Command," said Monk.

The 99th RSC is one of four regional support commands restructured under Army Reserve transformation initiatives from 10 previous regional readiness commands (RRCs). The 99th will move from its headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Retirees head to post for RAD

Carolee Nisbet
Editor

More than 700 retirees of all services and ranks gathered their families in Timmermann Center Sept. 20 for the Fort Dix Annual Retiree Appreciation Day.

The event offered those who served as a career the most recent information on benefits and services and a chance to meet old friends and comrades.

While the doors at Timmermann

Center opened at 8 a.m. for a continental breakfast and time to mingle, the formal ceremony began at 10 a.m. with the posting of the colors by the Lenape High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

The Star Spangled Banner was performed by Marine Sgt. William Lee, state vocalist for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Retired Col. George A. Waters Jr., chairman of the Fort Dix Retiree Council, took the podium to introduce the guest speaker, Sgt. Maj.

(Ret.) Leroy A. Bussells, assistant director of retiree affairs for the Association of the United States Army. Bussells, with more than 30 years of service, provided the audience a comprehensive look at pending legislation that may affect military retirees.

The advantages of the Survivor Benefit Plan, proposed changes to the health care system for retired military and efforts in place to eliminate offsets currently charged to retirees for various types of benefits were also on the program.

Bussells also encouraged the

crowd to get involved in seeking support for benefits and services.

Bussells was followed by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Raymond Russell, of the Lakes and Pines Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.

Col. Ronald Thaxton, installation commander, thanked the speakers for the valuable information provided, and presented each with a plaque of the Ultimate Weapon.

Following the formal ceremony, the Rutgers University ROTC drill team performed with precision and

(continued on page 4)

Civil Affairs unit to deploy with knowledge, experience

Sgt. Alexander N. Snyder
123 Mobile Public Affairs Det.
Arizona National Guard

"Incoming!"

A peaceful conversation between a U.S. civil affairs unit and a local sheik's wife is pierced by the whistle of an inbound mortar round.

Everyone gets down.

The meeting is over and Soldiers from Alpha Company, 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion, scatter from the tent, scrambling to the safety of their vehicles.

A firefight ignites.

The team ducks and returns fire, continuing forward as the patter of machine-gun fire echoes behind them.

This is not Iraq or Afghanistan,

however — it is Fort Dix, and the Soldiers in training are Army Reserve Soldiers from Syracuse, N.Y.

The scenario they are running is one of many the 403rd is scheduled to execute in the coming days and in the lead up to their deployment to Iraq. Along with rifles and body armor, the 403rd will carry with them a wealth of experience — as seen on the sleeve of many Soldiers in the unit.

Of the many combat patches worn by unit Soldiers, the 1st Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, 82nd Airborne Division and 172nd Stryker Brigade can be seen.

"Over fifty percent of my Soldiers in my company are combat veterans," says Maj. Denis H. Greco, the company commander. Greco served with the 403rd in Afghanistan in 2002 and

2003. Greco says many of his Soldiers are deploying on their second, third, or even fourth tour to a combat zone.

Among those Soldiers on a second combat tour is Sgt. Nathan E. Bowman, a signal support system specialist. Bowman finished his first tour more than a year ago, having deployed a few days after returning from Advanced Individual Training.

Bowman says he expects his unit to bring professionalism to the civil affairs mission in Iraq.

"We've all been there already. We all know what we're doing. We all understand what we are getting into — the gravity of how our mis-

(continued on page 6)



Spec. Brian A. Barbour 123rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

LESSONS LEARNED — Maj. Thomas J. Downey left, of A Co., 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion gives a convoy briefing to his company during a training exercise at Fort Dix Sept. 22. The Syracuse, N.Y., Army reserve unit was training for its up-coming deployment to Iraq.



Ed Mingin

ONE LAST WORD — Congressman Jim Saxton talks with New Jersey Network reporter Kent St. John during Saxton's final news brief at Fort Dix at the new 99th RSC building Sept. 22.

Saxton farewells bases with advice for secure future

Congressman Jim Saxton took the podium for the last time at Fort Dix Sept. 22 for a farewell address to his district's three military installations, reporters from across the state and friends from the surrounding communities.

Saxton spoke to the crowd in front of the huge new building that will house the 99th Regional Support Command, a project he fought for and is delighted to see so close to completion.

In his final planned press conference of a 24-year career, the legendary South Jersey Congressman (NJ-3rd) painted a positive but cautious picture of the largest employers in the region, the 17,000 people who work for the Department of Defense at Fort Dix, Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Sta-

tion and McGuire Air Force Base.

"There will be a record-shattering \$179 million of new construction on the coming Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in 2009, but we must look beyond 2009 to secure defense-related jobs in the region," Saxton said. "An additional \$277 million is planned for the next six years at the bases. The bases are each important employers because of their direct impact on the South Jersey economy. I'm satisfied with what we've accomplished together over the years, but I need to lay these job-related issues on the table before Congress recesses for 2008 this week, and as I leave the scene."

Saxton hit upon five key development:

A new independent study released (continued on page 4)

science

Mapping a geography of personality

Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

About 20 years ago scientists established that a combination of five basic dimensions - extroversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, neuroticism and openness to new ideas and experiences - account for all personalities, according to meticulous research undertaken by Sharon Begley for an article in *Newsweek* (Sept. 1, 2008) entitled "The Geography of Personality."

And those five dimensions can be accurately measured with questionnaires.

"Since personality is so important to both social and individual outcomes," Begley writes, "the hunt is on for which traits vary geographically and why."

In a new study on how geography influences people in the United States, Jason Rentfrow and some colleagues at Cambridge University discovered that a "neuroticism belt" runs from Maine to Louisiana, dividing the East and West. There's also a geographic gap in openness (measuring willingness to embrace new ideas and creativity) with people of the Northeast and West Coast exhibiting the trait much more than folks in the Midwest and down South.

Extroversion runs high across the Great Plains, Midwest and Southeast and hits bottom in the Northwest and Northeast.

Agreeable people, according to the 619,397 people participating in the Cambridge study, tend to fare better in the Midwest and Southeast while conscientious types should feel more at home in the South and Midwest.

Rentfrow points out some significant geographic trends among the people surveyed. Findings show the people living in eastern states like New York are likely to be anxious, stressed, impulsive and prone to heart disease and cancer. Citizens of Kansas, Florida, Arizona, Missouri and Utah, where the conscientious trait is very strong, display a religious fervor notably absent from other states. Robbery and murder rates are highest in states like New York, Oregon and California which are populated with people having a strong orientation to the openness personality trait. But the openness trait also encourages curiosity,



Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" 1966, Warner Brothers

HOW SWEET IT ISN'T - Researchers at Cambridge University claim their "personality map" reveals how certain kinds of people are more likely to live and thrive in different parts of the U.S. and shows links between personality traits and social phenomenon, like crime rates. The picture above displays a strong dose of neuroticism, with personality traits indicating high levels of anxiety, stress and raging impulses.



Grant Wood's "American Gothic" DOWN ON THE FARM -- The stoic farm couple depicted so acutely by Grant Wood probably best represents a conscientious personality marked by traits of responsibility and self-discipline.

creativity and tolerance by people to marijuana, abortion and gay marriage. According to the study, the nicest Americans share the agreeableness trait and tend to be warm, cooperative and friendly. They are more likely to be found in North Dakota, North Carolina and Georgia. Neurotics displaying anxiety, stress and impulsiveness are plentiful in West Virginia, Rhode Island, New York, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Delaware scores low in openness (curious and intellectual) while New York is among high scorers, joining the District of Columbia, Oregon, Massachusetts, Washington, California, Vermont, Colorado, Nevada and Maryland. New Jersey and New York were among the lowest scorers in conscientiousness (dutiful, responsible and self-disciplined). New York, again, was among the lowest in agreeableness (warm, compassionate, cooperative and friendly).



affordable housinginstitute.org/blogs/us/2005/... **MIGHTY MOUSE** -- As might be expected, children's cartoon character Mighty Mouse is an extraverted hero whose sociable, energetic and enthusiastic nature not only saves the day but wins friends readily.

While personality shapes an individual, it also molds society. Rentfrow notes that conscientiousness "tends to breed computer scientists who prefer systematic and focused tasks and clearly defined rules." One would suppose that conscientious types would close ranks in the military, too.

nostalgia

Magic moments in Yankee Stadium

Sunday, Sept. 21 marked the last night for Yankee Stadium as fans watched the Yanks beat Baltimore 7-3, ending an 85-year run at the venerable playing field which is haunted by ghosts from its pin-striped past - Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle, Reggie Jackson, Billy Martin, Whitey Ford, Yogi Berra and so many others.

The 83-year-old Berra attending closing ceremonies and undoubtedly thought of old teammates who have passed away but whose names still live in the record books.

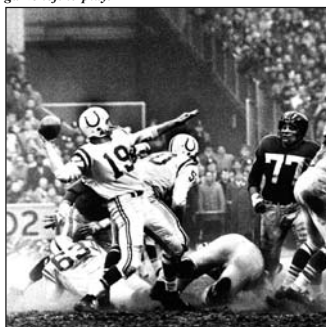
Don Larsen threw his perfect game here against the Dodgers in the 1956 World Series. Mickey Mantle nearly hit one out of the park here, the only player ever to come close. And Casey Stengel and Billy Martin became legendary managers on this sacred ground, putting color into the game.

And other games were played here, too. Now, history is all that remains



Reuters

BELOVED BAMBINO -- Babe Ruth hits his 60th home run, setting a seasonal record that stood for 14 years, off Washington Senator Tom Zachary to clinch a 4-2 Yankee victory over Washington on Sept. 30, 1927 at Yankee Stadium. The win was the Bronx Bombers' 100th of the season with only one game left to play.



John Zimmerman, Sports Illustrated

- Steve Snyder
COLTS TRIUMPH -- Before the American Football League merged with the NFL, the Baltimore Colts beat the New York Giants 23-17 on a cold Sunday at Yankee Stadium on December 28, 1958 to win the NFL championship in what many still consider the greatest pro football game of all time. That's the famed Colt quarterback Johnny Unitas ignoring a Giant rush to connect on another pass, at right, The Colts' legendary fullback, Alan Ameche, bulled into the Giant end zone to win the game in overtime.

Dixan on the street

compiled by Steve Snyder

Congress is currently debating whether to bail out banks and other financial institutions -from \$70 billion to \$1 trillion - which were wiped out on Wall Street during the recent mortgage fund imbroglio.

We asked Dixans:

"What should the government do?"

Tony Williams > founder, Bathwater Press Publishing vendor at PX

"I support it (the bailout) if they can find a way to prevent mortgage foreclosures. If it's only an excuse to give the corporations a break - then I'm against it."



Tech. Sgt. < Beth Eilers USAF Reserve 88th Aerial Port Squad.

"It's good and bad. Good, if it helps the economy. Bad, if the operation fails and taxes rise again."



Sgt. 1st Class Eric Turner > MRB

"Maybe it's good if it assists the economy. I really haven't thought much about it."



< Staff Sgt. Adam Navarro 72nd Field Artillery Public Affairs

"Well, the government has to do something to keep the economy moving and to control gas prices. America cannot afford a major recession. It's government's job to encourage growth while keeping taxes at a reasonable level."



Charles DiNatale > Marine Corps Vet

"The President wants to pass it but he's already spent us deep into debt. Congress is just trying to decide what to do."



the Post

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Former Army Reserve chief passes torch to those who serve

Timothy H. Hale
Army Reserve Public Affairs

Atlanta, Ga. (September 19, 2008)—As the waning days of summer marked the changing of the seasons at Fort McPherson, Ga. it also heralded the beginning of a new phase in the life of the 30th Chief of the Army Reserve, Lt. Gen. James R. Helmy.

Hundreds turned out at Hedges Field to mark the retirement of Helmy after more than 40 years of military service to the United States.

After thanking his family, close friends and those who have mentored him throughout his career, the Savannah, Ga. native introduced himself simply by saying, "My name is Ron Helmy and I'm an American Soldier."

Helmy, who served as the



Lt. Gen. James R. Helmy

CAR from May 2002 to May 2006, started his military career as an enlisted Soldier in 1966. One year later, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant through Officer Candidate School.

Throughout his long and storied career, Helmy served in a variety of leadership positions to include two tours in Vietnam.

His most recent assignment was serving as a U.S. Defense Representative to Pakistan from July 2006 to July 2008.

"Because of leaders like Ron Helmy, we are indeed One Army -- a combat-seasoned, professional force making a positive difference in the difficult world of the 21st Century," said Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey, Jr.

"He's led, trained and mentored Soldiers who have fought in all of our country's wars over the last 40 years," Casey continued.

"While each war was different than the last, each required capable, confident Soldiers as well as caring Families who sustain our all-Volunteer Force."

A member of the Infantry Hall of Fame, Helmy honored the men and women who answered the call to military service.

"For many of us, when we've been needed, we've been there. That's been my high honor. To be there when my nation called," Helmy said.

Helmy said his time in Pakistan "solidified in my mind that the world remains a dark, dangerous place. That evil exists and that there are always those who wish to extinguish the flame of Liberty that we enjoy."

"I am, however, confident that because of the men and women who serve our nation today in all of our armed services and across our government, that flame of Liberty will continue to burn brightly," he concluded.

Driving safety tips help prevent unnecessary tailgating disasters

Jennifer Chupko
Fort Dix Public Affairs Staff

Impatience, hurrying, stress, and frustration can all work to create an unsafe driving environment for motorists, their passengers, and everyone sharing the road.

Put all of those factors together with a slower driver on the road and you get what is commonly known as tailgating.

According to national research compiled by the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, tailgating and aggressive driving was a contributing factor in 31 percent of all fatal crashes across the nation, killing nearly 1,000 people every month.

"Tailgating is a common violation that exists," said Sgt. Gregory Rodriguez, Traffic Crash Investigator.

"All it takes is a little bit of tolerance and the roads would be safer."

Not maintaining an appropriate distance when following other vehicles, and cutting in too quickly after passing vehicles is all considered tailgating.

Another hostile tailgating behavior is flashing headlights to signal a desire to pass, an action that can aggravate the driver in front.

"I don't think people pay attention when they need to get somewhere quick," said Airman Jake Simmons.

"If they are going to do it, then they are going to do it."

Recent highway safety research shows most drivers say that in the past year they have seen aggressive driving so dangerous it put others on the road at risk.

"Everyone knows the rules. Everyone has taken tests to get their licenses," said Rodriguez. "They wouldn't have passed that driving test without this information."

New Jersey State Police Traffic Bureau started a more aggressive program when it was determined that 63 percent of fatal crashes were the result of violations attributed to aggressive drivers. The enforcement program uses semi-marked patrol cars and

Aggressive Driving, and insurance companies, such as State Farm and Allstate, have also launched education campaigns.

Here are some of the high points of these campaigns:

- Scan the road ahead for potential dangers. Watch for brake lights or people suddenly swerving or changing lanes. The sooner you spot a problem, the more time you have to react.

- Be aware of traffic. Use your mirrors to keep track of

fore changing lanes and look before pulling over.

- Don't drive too fast or too slow. Pick a speed where you can stay with traffic while keeping an open space around you as an escape route.

- Set radio, CD player, temperature controls and seat adjustments before you pull into traffic -- splitting your attention between the radio station and safe driving won't be a hit with anyone on the highway.

- Warn drivers behind you by turning on your hazard warning lights if you have to suddenly stop or slow down on the highway.

- Don't drive alongside big trucks longer than necessary. If the driver unexpectedly moves into your lane, you can be without an escape route.

- If you're being tailgated, either change lanes or pull over and let the tailgater pass.

- Never drive over an object in the road that can safely be avoided. A plastic bag or cardboard box can conceal more dangerous items.

- Watch for other drivers talking on cell phones and understand their driving skills may be impaired.

- Avoid banged up "clunkers"—the collection of dents may reflect the owner's driving history.

- Watch the movements of other vehicles on the highway. If a car is weaving or speeding up and slowing down, the driver may be intoxicated or distracted. Avoid these vehicles.

- "The most important thing is having patience," said Rodriguez.

- Tailgating doesn't get you anywhere but in the hospital or in a coffin."

Tailgating and aggressive driving associated with traffic crashes was a contributing factor in 31 percent of all fatal crashes across the nation, killing nearly 1,000 people every month.

unconventional vehicles.

"There is no other activity in which people make life and death decisions on such a regular basis," said Rodriguez.

"I own a motor home and take my time," said Judy Perry, jewelry vendor. "I am in no hurry and people can just go right around me!"

Many public and private organizations have launched education campaigns to teach drivers about their own behavior and how to deal with aggressive behavior of other drivers.

For example, education campaigns have been developed by government agencies such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the National Safety Council, and the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

Citizen groups such as Citizens Against Speeding and

vehicles around you.

- Keep a two-to-three-second following distance behind vehicles so you'll have room to stop during emergencies.

This is especially true of big trucks. Not only do they block your vision, a blown truck tire can send a chunk of rubber hurtling through your windshield.

- Avoid large packs of traffic. They are particularly dangerous because they're typically caused by impatient drivers tailgating one another.

- See and be seen. Keep your windows clean, especially at night. If you don't have daytime running lights, use your headlights so others can better see you.

- Hang up and drive. Studies show it's dangerous to concentrate on doing two things at once.

- Signal well in advance be-

POLICE LOG

Police Log is a weekly synopsis of significant police activities developed from reports, complaints, incidents or information received and actions taken, for the week of Sept. 15 through 22.

The abbreviation DoD stands for Department of Defense; NAFD means Not Affiliated with Fort Dix (the subject doesn't live or work here); NCIC stands for National Crime Information Center; DWI means Driving While Intoxicated; CDS means Controlled Drug Substance; POV means Privately Owned Vehicle; MAFB stands for McGuire Air Force Base; USAF EC stands for US Air Force Expeditionary Center; AHCC stands for Ambulatory Health Care Clinic (MAFB); VMHBC stands for Virtua Memorial Hospital of Burlington County; CP# stands for Checkpoint Number.

- Police responded to a traffic accident on Texas Avenue. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a Soldier assigned to Fort Dix, struck a stopped vehicle. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

- Police responded to a motor vehicle crash near Outdoor Recreation. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a Fort Dix civilian employee struck a fence pole. There were no reported injuries and the vehicle was released to the operator at the scene.

- Police responded to a traffic accident on Sever Avenue. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a Fort Dix contract employee, lost control on a curve and struck the curb, resulting in front end damage. Further investigation revealed the subject had only a learner's permit. The subject also did not have the registered owner's permission to take the vehicle. There were no reported injuries. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to the registered owner.

- Police responded to a motor vehicle crash in TAC #3. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a Soldier assigned to Fort Dix, struck a tree resulting in disabling damage to the vehicle. The subject was unable to produce a valid insurance card. There were no reported injuries. The subject was cited and the vehicle towed from the scene.

- During a routine credential check of a driver attempting to enter the installation via the Main Gate, police discovered the operator, a Fort Dix civilian employee, had a suspended driver's license. The subject was cited and the vehicle released to a licensed driver. Police then observed the subject exit the post and get in the driver's seat of a second vehicle and depart. The subject was stopped, cited again, and the second vehicle towed from the scene.

- During a routine traffic stop at the Main Gate, police discovered the vehicle, operated by a civilian NAFD, had expired registration. The subject was cited and the vehicle towed from the scene.

- Police responded to a traffic accident near Bldg. 5965. Investigation revealed a government vehicle, operated by a Soldier NAFD, struck an unoccupied vehicle while parking. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

- Police responded to a traffic accident on Rhode Island Street. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by an Airman NAFD, struck a parked and unoccupied vehicle while backing. The impact pushed the second vehicle into a third vehicle. There were no reported injuries and the vehicles were released to the operators at the scene.

- Police operated a Sobriety Safety Checkpoint as directed by the Installation Commander. Nine vehicles were checked with negative findings.

- During a routine credential check of a vehicle attempting to enter the installation via the Pemberton Gate, police discovered the vehicle operator, a civilian NAFD, had a suspended driver's license and two active warrants out of Pemberton Township. The subject was cited and transferred to the custody of Pemberton Township Police. The vehicle was released to a licensed driver.

- Police, Fire Department, and emergency medical personnel responded to a traffic accident on Pennsylvania Avenue. Investigation revealed vehicle one, operated by a civilian NAFD, failed to yield and struck vehicle two, causing it to spin and strike vehicle three. The driver and a passenger in vehicle one were extricated and transported by ambulance to VMHBC for treatment. The operator of vehicle two was also transported by ambulance to VMHBC for treatment. Vehicles one and two were towed from the scene. Vehicle three was released to the operator. Investigation continues.

- Police, Fire Department, and emergency medical personnel responded to a traffic accident at DTA #3. Investigation revealed a tactical vehicle, operated by a Soldier assigned to Fort Dix, rolled while maneuvering around the course. The operator and two passengers were treated at the scene by Range Medics and refused further treatment. The vehicle was released to the unit.

- Police responded to a motor vehicle crash at TAC #9. Investigation revealed a government vehicle, operated by a Fort Dix civilian employee, swerved to avoid a deer and struck a tree resulting in disabling damage to the vehicle. There were no reported injuries and the vehicle was towed from the scene.

- Police responded to a motor vehicle crash on Pointville Road. Investigation revealed a vehicle, operated by a civilian NAFD, was struck by a deer. The deer then ran into the woods. The vehicle was released to the operator at the scene.

- There were three expired identification cards confiscated during the period.

- There were 27 Magistrate Court Citations issued for moving violations. DWI incidents remain at nine for the year.



Safety Center Photo

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Saxton offers final message

(continued from page 1)

of federal contract spending for 2007 shows federal spending has shot up 300 percent from the previous year to \$2 billion.

The same review showed \$97.2 million in annual expenditures in 2004, to \$495 million in 2005 and \$683 million in 2006. This stresses the need for the South Jersey community to support federal defense-related jobs as a major economic force in the region that is becoming increasingly important to the local economy.

Saxton said the Air Mobility Command's decision to station four more large C-17s and four huge C-5 Galaxy planes is a positive indication that McGuire can handle another squadron of C-17s in the future. Further, by Jan. 11, 2009, four Navy C-9s and four Navy C-130 Hercules, as well as 22 Marine helicopters are set to arrive; and by March 2009 the Army will send five C-12s. That's in addition to eight large KC-135R refueling tankers which have arrived within the past nine months, to offset the long-planned retirement of McGuire's old KC-135Es, all of which are now retired.

Saxton announced that Fort Dix's long empty Walston Army Hospital is being eyed for a new mission.

Saxton said that a record-busting \$179 million in military construction is planned at Fort Dix, McGuire and Lakehurst in 2009, and DoD has plans to build another \$277 million in its Future Years Defense Plan (FY-DP).

Saxton issued a stark reminder that another BRAC list is expected to be released in 2015, with the early BRAC process beginning years ahead of that, perhaps in 2011 or 2012. Officials and the community must begin to plan for this now.

The funding has already been approved by the House and is expected to be before the Senate this week. The 364,000-square-foot former Army hospital, which operated as an Air Force medical clinic until 2001, is being considered by the Army Reserve as a medical training center. The project could lead to more than \$20 million in renovations in dormitory and classroom space, and a steady flow of trainees coming to Dix to attend classes.

In his final press conference at Fort Dix, which is located in both Ocean and Burlington Counties, the heart of his district, Saxton warned that BRAC is looming, and that the community must be supportive of the bases and be proactive to keep them open.

"Another round of BRAC is coming, and I must stress that early preparation is critical," said Saxton. "I have worked through five rounds of BRAC with reasonable success. I must advise the State, County and local government officials and their communities to continue supporting the bases as they have done for me. It

can never be too early to start preparing."

Briefly recapping the evolution of three bases that have repeatedly dodged the BRAC bullet, Saxton said that in the five rounds of BRAC between 1988-2005, at least one of the three bases has been on the list. The most recent round of BRAC in 2005 was authorized four years prior, in 2001. That round hit close to home, including nearby Willow Grove Naval Station in Pennsylvania, and Fort Monmouth in New Jersey.

Saxton also revealed the latest independent data showing that the Third District is No. 1 in New Jersey and No. 39 of 435 districts across the country, in receiving federal contracts.

He also said McGuire AFB is expected to host four huge C-5 Galaxy cargo planes and

four more C-17s to support air operations. He said the new missions, though not permanent, were a good sign that the Air Force believes there is more space at McGuire for another squadron of new C-17s.

He also called for every effort to be made to land a new command proposed by the Air Force, dubbed "Cyber Command" to defend against enemy

cyber-warfare.

"DoD jobs are the largest single employer in the region, and every effort must be made to keep those jobs and attract new jobs," he said. Lakehurst's future looks bright, Saxton said, with a modern carrier aircraft recovery system in the 2009 budget, plus a \$36 million carrier aviation software facility proposed for 2010.

Saxton also said that he has been working with the Chief of U.S. Army Reserve Command for over two years to reuse Walston Army Hospital. A proposal to use Walston as the site of future medical training could bring millions of dollars in renovations, and more than two dozen permanent jobs and hundreds of visiting trainees.

"Walston has great potential," Saxton said. "It's one of the largest buildings in South Jersey. It's been used for temporary missions, but this would be a significant use. It would create a lot of activity."

"We have seen great success over the past five to 15 years. But that success involved the full engagement of the community. Support from every aspect of the community, from local newspapers and media, to local town halls and support in Trenton — it all makes a difference. After I exit the scene, protecting these jobs — the largest source of employment in the region — should be a top priority."

Col. Ronald Thaxton, Fort Dix commander, thanked Saxton for his unstinting support of the military and specifically Fort Dix, and presented him with a framed picture of Wurman Hall and an engraved clock to mark the post's appreciation and best wishes.

In his final press conference on Fort Dix, Congressman Jim Saxton warned that BRAC is looming, and that the community must be supportive of the bases and be proactive to keep them open.



Ed Mingin

KEEP EVERYONE BUSY — Congressman Jim Saxton offers some parting words of guidance on handling Fort Dix's future to Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander, at his last press conference at Fort Dix. Sept. 22.

Retirees head to post for RAD

(continued from page 1)

skill that drew appreciative applause from the crowd.

A ceremonial rendition of TAPS was performed by First Sgt. (Ret.) Dick Pinter, who also helped entertain the crowd as it trickled into the theater at the beginning of the formal program.

Rachel Simpson a professional singer, who is also the spouse of one the council

members, performed favorites for the crowd to wrap up the entertainment.

Certificates donated by AAFES were raffled at the end of the entertainment, and the Council conducted a silent auction.

The proceeds from the silent auction are used to pay for the morning refreshments provided to the retirees.

The County Information

Fair enticed visitors both before and after the formal program, and guests left with bags of goodies ranging from fire safety potholders to Ready Army Disaster Preparedness Kits.

Other tables for the fair were staffed by Veterans' Organizations, the Army/Air Force Exchange Service, the Tricare Retiree Dental Program, and many other organizations that filled three large classrooms in Timmermann Center.

Soldiers from the Walston Medical Support Element offered basic health tests, such as blood pressure, and guests were also encouraged to ensure that information on their families is up-to-date and accurate so they will not face refusal of service at a later date.

In addition to the services offered at the fair, the ID Center was open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The service issued 71 ID cards and completed 77 transactions for retiree customers.

The Department of Defense Police provided vehicle registrations to the retirees, 58 registrations were issued and they provided 75 updates.

The total attendance for the RAD was 658.

That total included participants from as far north as Bronx, New York and as far south as Largo, Florida.

While Carlo DePorto may not have travelled the greatest distance, the veteran of the 156th Field Artillery more than likely claimed the longest time gap. He last came to Fort Dix in uniform 68 years ago on his way to Europe.

Attendees were also given booklets containing phone numbers, forms and pages of information on numerous topics ranging from Social Security to Arts and Crafts.



Robert Knechtel talks to Staff Sgt. Arfan Malik, Walston Medical Support Element, while waiting for a final reading at the blood pressure station during Retiree Appreciation Day at Timmermann Center Sept. 20. Below, Junior Reserve Officer Training Cadets from Lenape High School place the colors at the opening session of the Retiree Appreciation Day. From left, they are Cadet Cpt. Marc Krisch, Cadet Sgt. First Class Anthony Petrasso, Cadet Cpt. Samantha Strubb and Cadet Maj. Laura Lemay.



INFO TO GO — Fort Dix Director of Logistics Bob Cole, who also serves as member of the Reserve Officer Association, discusses benefits with Joseph Farrell at the Retiree Appreciation Day at Timmermann Center Sept. 20.



THE RIGHT WORDS — Marine Sgt. William Lee, state vocalist for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, sings the Star Spangled Banner at the opening ceremony for Retiree Appreciation Day Sept. 20.

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NEIGHBORHOOD

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Night Vision Expo to be held at Fort Belvoir

Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate (NVESD) is planning an evening of technology demonstrations for Department of Defense military and civilian leaders, and members of Congress. The 2008 Executive Night Vision Technology Exposition, scheduled for Oct. 1, will highlight the latest developments in night vision and electronic sensor technology.

The single evening event, to be hosted at NVESD at Ft. Belvoir, Va., is intended to provide participants with a high-level overview of the latest night vision and electronic sensors technology, as well as affording an opportunity to experience a selection of these technologies first hand through interactive demonstrations.

Participation is limited. Individuals interested in attending should call Kim Polk at 703-704-1234.

Issues sought for AFAP Conference

The Army Family Action Plan Conference will be held Oct. 23 at Timmermann Center. Members of the Fort Dix community, Soldiers, employees, family members, residents and retirees are invited to let Army leadership know what works, what doesn't and what can be done to fix it. Please submit your comments to Fran Booth at frances.booth@us.army.mil.

Thrift Shop accepting fall clothing consignments

The Fort Dix Thrift shop is now accepting Fall clothing consignments. Consignments are accepted Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Appointments are also available by calling 723-2683.

The Thrift shop is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the first and third Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Wednesday of the month from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information call 723-2683.

Volunteers needed for speaking engagements

The Fort Dix Public Affairs Office is looking for officer and senior NCO volunteers to help us in our community relations efforts by becoming part of our speaker's bureau. Please call Gerry Zanzalari at 562-4034 for more information.

305th Med Group makes cancellations easy

Soldiers who cannot get to scheduled medical appointments on time at the 305th Medical Group, McGuire Air Force Base, may cancel their appointments by calling 754-9287. The phone will be staffed until 2 p.m. when it will switch to a message system that will be checked hourly.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Rain and a possible thunderstorm. High Near 66 degrees. Rain likely overnight with a low around 60.

SATURDAY-- Rain likely in the morning. High near 73. A chance of showers overnight with a low around 61.

SUNDAY -- Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a high near 76 degrees. Partly cloudy overnight with a low around 61 degrees.

MONDAY -- Mostly sunny with a high near 75 degrees. Clouds roll in overnight with a low around 56.

TUESDAY -- Cloudy with a chance of showers. High near 72. A chance of overnight showers with a low of 56 degrees.

WEDNESDAY -- Mostly cloudy with a high of 68 and an overnight low of 56 degrees.

Help needed for Lands Day

Sgt. Alexander N. Snyder
123rd MPAD

If you've been looking for a way to give back to the environment, you may be in luck.

Fort Dix is scheduled to host its fifth annual National Public Lands Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 27.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest volunteer effort to improve public lands, and this year will mark its 15th anniversary nationwide.

The event is a way of "giving back to the land we've been entrusted," said Roger Smith, the natural resource management scientist on Fort Dix. Smith has worked here for the last 34 years.

"Volunteers will be split up after meeting at the Lake of the Woods. One group will move to Amphibious Lake to repair severe erosion by planting native grass seed. Clean up should take about five hours," Smith said.

Projects this year also include litter cleanup, fence repair and invasive plant removal.

Last year approximately 100 people turned out. This year between 100 and 150 are expected, Smith said.

Fort Dix has over 30,000 acres of public land, however, only a select few are

slated for clean up.

"We really try to address the major recreation areas," Smith said. Last year, volunteers pulled approximately 80 tires from one cleanup site, he said.

Free T-shirts will be handed out to the first 100 volunteers and refreshments will be provided by the Red Cross. He said the cleanup sites are outside the gated area of Fort Dix, access will not be an issue to volunteers.

Regardless of the weather, the event will take place.

"Rain or shine we'll be there," Smith said.

Funding for the event is supplied through Legacy Awards—Department of Defense funds set aside for improvement to military land open to the public.

This year, Fort Dix received approximately \$5,000 through the program. The money was used to buy the plant material, seeds, tools and fertilizer, Smith said.

No matter the work, Smith said volunteers will be educated on why they are doing the work.

"We try to educate (people) about what it is to be a good citizen and to take care of the environment," Smith said.

For those interested in joining the cleanup efforts, Smith offers some simple advice:

"Plan on getting dirty."

Directions to
Fort Dix
National Public Lands Day
September 27, 2008
Lake of the Woods



To Fort Dix, Range Road:

From Pemberton and points south: Take route 530 east past B.C. to the center of Browns Mills, at second traffic light turn left on Trenton Road. Take Trenton Road to just prior to Security gate and turn right on Range Road. Take Range Road 1.5 miles. Lake of the Woods is on the right, you will be directed to parking.

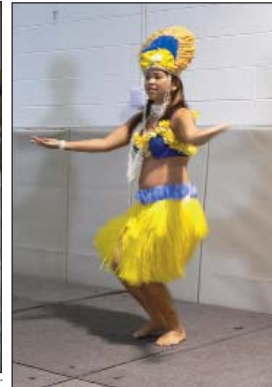
From Browns Mills: Follow directions above or take East Lakeshore Drive to Range Road, turn left. Take Range Road .5 miles. Lake of the Woods is on the left, you will be directed to parking.

From Cookstown, New Egypt and points north: Take Routes 537, 528 spur or 616 to the center of Cookstown. Continue on Main Street, it turns into Cookstown-Browns Mills Road. Take this for about 4 miles to the stop sign. Turn right onto Range Road. Take Range Road .5 miles. Lake of the Woods is on the left, you will be directed to parking.

Diversity tops menu at festival



photos by Steve Snyder



A WORLD OF FUN -- Kyrstyna Wittman, owner of Sebastian Schnitzel Haus in Wrightstown, assisted by Sgt. 1st Class Philip Hussa, 254th Regiment, serves up German fare at the New Jersey National Guard's 10th Annual Unity Day: Decade of Diversity celebration held Sept. 18 at the Joint Training and Training Battle Lab. In addition to tasty treats from around the globe, visitors were treated to displays of music and dancing such as the hula, right. More than a thousand people came to experience the international affair.

Driving to arrive alive



photos by Jennifer Chupko

Save a Life Tour's mobile Alcohol Awareness intoxication simulator, above, provided a drunk driving experience for Fort Dix Soldiers and employees, Sept. 16 at Timmermann Center. The simulator car gave participants a first hand look at the effects after consuming a different number of alcoholic beverages. Sgt. Brodhny Ricketts, commander, 1-32nd Regiment(LS), left, navigates a snowy road while his blood-alcohol level increases. The simulator gives the driver a chance to see and feel the dangerous effects of driving under the influence. As the driver intoxication level rises, a number at the top of the simulated screen shows the intoxication level from one to 11.

Resources available to voters

Jennifer Chupko
Public Affairs Staff

With the presidential election coming up in November, many servicemen and women are not aware of the steps they must take to vote for the next President of the United States. Registering for and using ballots are critical parts of taking a stand as an American citizen to have your voice heard and opinion count.

"There are several resources someone can use to register for an absentee ballot. The information is different for every state," said Maj. Marisol Lanza, Human Resources Manage-

ment (HRM), Mobilization Readiness Battalion (MRB).

"What we do is get the information out on how to register to vote and tell them how to get access to their resources," she said.

After requesting forms to register, Soldiers are given a packet of information that includes the guidelines on their home state's requirements. All states are different thus making it imperative to read the details. Once the registration is filled out completely and mailed, the absentee ballot is sent to the Soldier. It will include the presidential election, but gives the capability to vote in other races in that state as well.

Fifteen of the 18 units on Fort Dix have Soldiers on additional duty orders to train in a voting assistance workshop. After the Soldiers have finished the workshop, they are certified to educate others about absentee voting.

"We can't force people to vote, but we can educate them," said Lanza. "We provide help to those that request it."

For Soldiers going overseas it is essential that a voting representative that reads, "Where to send my voting materials," when registering. This will ensure all documents will be sent to the person requesting them.

The Uniformed and Overseas Citi-

zens Absentee Voting Act (UOVACA) protects the right to vote for members of the Uniformed Services, Merchant Marines, their spouses and dependents, and United States citizens residing outside the territorial limits of the United States.

October 12 through 18 is Absentee Voting Week. During this week, all Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB) must be submitted either by mail or to a voting representative. Your completed ballot will not be processed or counted in 2008 elections if the submission period is exceeded.

Voter Registration/Ballot Request Form can be found at www.fvap.gov.

MILITARY MATTERS

Medical boards may get revamped

Heike Hasenauer
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19, 2008 — Some 400 representatives from the Army, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor and Social Security Administration, among others, are meeting in Leesburg, Va., this week to discuss ways to improve the care of wounded and ill Soldiers.

Many of the discussions have centered on revamping the Medical Evaluation Board process by which wounded and ill Soldiers are screened to determine whether or not they're fit to continue to serve, said Brig. Gen. Gary Cheek, the Army's assistant surgeon general for Warrior Care and Transition.

"Members of the MEB determine whether or not a Soldier is fit or unfit for service," Cheek said. "Then, the Soldier goes before a Physical Evaluation Board, which gives him a disability rating." Because of the two processes, "there's confusion and duplication of effort," he said, adding "We need to get the military

completely out of the disability process and allow the Veterans Administration to be a single source of benefits."

Why? Today military medical experts are saving Soldiers' lives on the battlefield, evacuating them quickly to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany and Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and others, to receive the best care possible.

Then, those same medical professionals who saved the Soldier are making evaluations as to whether or not the Soldier should be retired from duty. They go from being angels "to being the enemy," Cheek said.

In July, the Army chief of staff issued a message to Army leaders indicating there had been "an explosion of Soldiers in warrior transition units" over the 16-month period since the WTUs were created - from some 5,000 to 12,000, said Lt. Col. Michael Mixen, chief of Plans and Policy for the Warrior Care and Transition Office.

"The numbers were way up," Cheek said. Simultaneously, WTU cadre were rotating out of the WTUs for other assignments. Suddenly, there

were too few people caring for too many Soldiers.

The Army's then-vice chief of staff, Gen. Richard Cody, sent a message to Army leaders advising them to fix problems as quickly as possible, Mixen said.

Attendees at the WCTO conference focused on the vice

"We need to get the military completely out of the disability process and allow the Veterans Administration to be a single source of benefits."

- Brig. Gen. Gary Cheek

chief of staff of the Army's imperatives, Cheek said, including "right-sizing" the WTUs to ensure the right Soldiers were being assigned to the units - those who were expected to require at least six months of rehabilitation; that there was an appropriate number of cadre to support them; and that Soldiers received orders assigning them to the WTUs in a timely manner.

Commanders were also briefed on "a comprehensive Army mental-health strategy, which is to be announced at this year's AUSA [Association

of the U.S. Army] conference [in Washington, D.C.], in October," Mixen said.

Discussion groups addressed whether or not the Army has enough available doctors in specific specialties to care for Soldiers, and they talked about developing a comprehensive plan to help Sol-

diers transition from medical rehabilitation to civilian life, developing Soldiers' life skills and occupational skills to provide them the best chances for future success.

Great strides have been made since the WCTO was established some 19 months ago, Cheek said.

"We tend to focus on the negative, but in a little more than a year and a half we've gone from no focus on warrior care to an organization of 35 separate, fully staffed groups.

Recent changes include the addition of retention NCOs as

part of WTUs, to encourage Soldiers who want to remain on active duty to stay in service or enter the reserve component.

Personnel NCOs from brigades, battalions and companies who support the WTUs have been trained on the different types of computer software used to track and record the care of warriors in transition," Mixen said.

Additionally, retired Gen. Frederick Franks Jr. — former commander of Training and Doctrine Command and also of VII Corps during the first Gulf War — has been hired to conduct an external review of the MEB process, Mixen added.

Meantime, Army leaders are looking at ways to get current legislation governing the MEB process changed, to transition it from the Army to the VA.

Lt. Col. Marie Dominguez, special assistant to the secretary of veteran's affairs at the VA's central office in Washington, D.C., is among the many people working to improve the MEB process.

One of the recommendations is to have a physician complete a profile of the Sol-

dier to determine whether or not he's ready to begin the MEB process.

Under the current system, a subspecialist [in a particular medical field] now writes a profile for one condition, when the Soldier may well be suffering from several conditions, Dominguez said.

The MEB process is slow today because the starting time isn't appropriate. "Sometimes it bleeds into the Soldier's rehabilitation/treatment phase; it's started too soon."

"The ideas we discuss this week will go into a report for consideration for implementation by Army leaders and could be forwarded to Congress in order to change the big impediments - the 'rocks' - to the MEB process," Cheek concluded. Until then, medical facilities across the Army are working to streamline their own MEB processes.

At Fort Bragg, N.C., Womack Army Medical Center personnel are reducing the number of medical-evaluation boards to support wounded and ill Soldiers, according to Lt. Col. Niel Johnson, chief of the Department of Deployment Health.

Empire State civil affairs unit deploys

(continued from page 1)
sion affects the country as a whole," Bowman says.

Until the 403rd deploys, it is scheduled to train in scenarios closely resembling situations its Soldiers may encounter in Iraq, such as an enemy attack during peaceful talks with local populations.

And with experience comes the knowledge of tactical limitations.

In the case of the 403rd, it means knowing when to move out of a dangerous and potentially lethal situation — such as an enemy attack involving machine-gun and mortar fire.

"It's nearly impossible to

tell who the enemy is anymore," says Staff Sgt. Dane R. Halligan, a team sergeant in Alpha Company. Halligan has been in the army 11 years and is on his third deployment, having gone to Iraq once in 2003 and once in 2006.

"Any civilian is a possible threat," Halligan says, explaining why the 403rd would leave the people it sought to help.

As for the civilian populace in this scenario, Halligan explains: "We are not leaving them completely behind."

In situations such as this the 403rd would regroup and report information back to its higher headquarters; the unit

would almost always return, he says. As for the upcoming deployment, Halligan says he is extremely confident in his unit's ability to perform its assigned mission.

"Everyone seems very tactically proficient," Halligan says.

Maj. Greco also says he expects the company's scheduled ten-month deployment to be a good one.

"With all that experience, we plan on bringing our knowledge and our combat experience to the fight," Greco says. "I believe it's going to be a very successful mission and I'm looking forward to it."

FORWARD MARCH -- Below, left, Sgt. John Alvarez, of A Co. 403rd Civil Affairs Bn. from Syracuse N.Y., prepares his ammunition while waiting for a convoy briefing during a training exercise at Fort Dix Sept. 22. Alvarez, a reactor from Hannibal, N.Y., joined the Army Reserve at age 39 after the Army raised its minimum age restrictions. This will be Alvarez's first deployment when his unit travels to Iraq this October in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Right, A sheik's wife, played by Ramie Aziz, a citizen-on-the-battlefield role player, listens as a civil affairs officer from A Co., 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion, discusses her village's water problems during a training exercise at Fort Dix Sept. 22.

photos: Spc. Brian A. Barbour
123rd MPAD



CFC kicks off Army campaign

J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23, 2008 - The Combined Federal Campaign, which kicked off Sept. 1 and runs through Dec. 15, is the world's largest annual workplace charity drive.

CFC raises millions of dollars each year to assist some 4,000 charities through donations from federal employees and servicemembers that support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

Some installations have already launched their CFC campaign for this year, but Secretary of the Army Pete Geren officially opens the National Capital Area CFC

campaign Oct. 2 at 9 a.m. with an event at the Pentagon auditorium open to Army employees and Soldiers.

Clifford Lovejoy, the CFC manager for the Army's NCA campaign, said the goal in the area is to raise \$2.95 million and he has 34 campaign managers working with their respective commands to help raise the money.

Maj. James Marotta of the National Guard Bureau credits one of the CFC charities with saving his life.

Diagnosed with a non-Hodgkins lymphoma, Marotta said one of the treatments available was chemotherapy, but it only had a 35-percent chance of making him go into remission.

"I'm in full remission now because of an experimental treatment I went through at the

National Institute of Health, which has a 98-percent remission success rate," he said. "I give that charity and all the charities that fund cancer research the credit they deserve."

"A lot of people donate money, but they don't necessarily donate locally," Marotta said.

"People should look at the

catalog and donate to whatever local charities they're interested in, there's something for everyone, from animal rescue to food kitchens to supplying coats for needy children and schools," he said.

Federal employees and servicemembers may give to the charities of their choice via automatic payroll deduction or even a one-time cash or check

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Ambassadors experience bosslift

Ryan Morton
Public Affairs Staff

Ambassadors, a group of men and women who work to help and assist Soldiers and families in the Army Reserve from the 99th Regional Support Command (RSC), had the opportunity to show their support for the Soldiers and observe the inner workings of Fort Dix, as the installation supports the Global War on Terrorism. The representatives were part of the Ambassadors Lift, which took place, Sept. 19. The ambassadors, mostly military retirees, are from the Northeast U.S. and represent 13 states, from Maine to Virginia.

"These ambassadors are volunteers who work with various government officials to help improve policies and conditions for Soldiers in the Army Reserve, such as tuition assistance, healthcare, employer support, and retirement benefits," said Maj. Gen. William Monk, 99th RSG Commander.

Their tour began with a first hand view of the mobilization process at the Joint Readiness

Center (JRC). This is where Soldiers mobilize and demobilize undergoing thorough medical check-ups and record screenings. Next, the ambassadors visited facilities where Dix's wounded warriors recover from injuries sustained in the Global War on Terrorism.

From there, the ambassadors made their way out to Dix's training ranges and were first given a guided tour of the Forward Operating Base where Soldiers live while undergoing pre-deployment training. The tour was conducted by Lt. Col. John McKee, the commanding officer of the FOB, known as the mayor, who showed them the dining facility, living tents, and showering facilities to name a few of the amenities.

After observing the FOB, the ambassadors made their way to Range 47 where they witnessed a Humvee Eggress Assistance Trainer (HEAT) demonstration by Soldiers on hand who demonstrated how to react should a vehicle rollover occur. They also witnessed a weapons demonstration where Soldiers fired the M-240 Bravo machine gun at various down-range targets.

"We want to educate the ambassadors on what kind of training the Soldiers do so they have a better understanding of what the Soldiers go through," Monk said.

To conclude the tour, the ambassadors traveled to the range area known as Balad, where Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) training is conducted. The ambassadors stood on a roof-top and witnessed Soldiers entering a mock village and interacting with role-play actors called Civilians on the Battlefield (COBS). The scenario involved the Soldiers coordinating voter turn-out in an election. They organized the COBS, searched them and allowed them access to cast their votes. During this time other COBS who played insurgents, opened fire in the area causing Soldiers to react to the situation.

Overall, Monk felt that the Dix community gave a quality presentation to the ambassadors and at the same time, the ambassadors gained a better understanding and insight to what Soldiers go through in preparation for war.



photos by Ryan Morton

SPECIAL OBSERVERS -- Ambassadors from the 99th Regional Support Center (RSC) watch from above as a training scenario unfolds with casualties lining the streets at Dix's Balad training range during the Ambassadors Lift, September 19. The scenario involved Soldiers coordinating an election, which was interrupted by insurgents who opened fire at the crowd, thus making the Soldiers react to the situation. Below, Lt. Col. John McKee, Forward Operating Base (FOB) commanding officer, or mayor, takes the 99th RSC ambassadors on a tour of the FOB. The FOB is a simulated base camp set up to feel and resemble a camp in the war zone overseas. The facility houses military personnel when they mobilize through Fort Dix during their preparations for upcoming Global War on Terrorism missions.



Training mission complete

Above, Capt. Jonathan Roach, commander, 353rd Transportation Company, and 1st Sgt. Robert Tripp hold their units Yellow Banner at Infantry Park during a ceremony Sept. 19. The unit hails from Buffalo, Minn. and Green Bay, Wis. Below, Maj. Chris Chang, commander, 416th Civil Affairs Company, and Staff Sgt. Kevin Pond, Headquarters Company NCOIC, display the units Yellow Banner during a ceremony at Infantry Park Sept. 23. The unit hails from San Diego, Calif.



photos by Wayne Cook

Ready to move out



Wayne Cook

Lt. Col. Chuck Mungia, commander, 426th Civil Affairs Battalion, Detachment 3, and Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Martello hold their unit's Yellow Banner before hoisting it high above Infantry Park Sept. 23. The special operations unit, headquartered in Upland, Calif., is headed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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Sgt. Major retires with honors

1st Lt. Antonia Greene
72nd Field Artillery Brigade

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 315th Engineer Training Support Regiment honored Sgt. Maj. Thomas C. Fenton for his more than 31 years of service during a retirement ceremony, Sept. 18.

As Soldiers and leaders entered the auditorium, photos of the sergeant major were displayed along with the background music "Army Strong." It was a reflection of Fenton's character and service.

Master Sgt. Scott W. Klaas, 3-315th Training Support Battalion, narrated the event. All in attendance recited the Soldier's Creed and listened to a reading of the extensive accomplishments and awards earned by Fenton over the years.

Lieutenant Col. David L. Knellinger, commander, 3-315th Training Support Battalion, thanked everyone and spoke of Fenton's unbridled devotion to Soldiers, the training mission and the Army.

"We are here to celebrate his service, honor his accomplishments and reflect on our responsibility to uphold the legacy he has given us," said Knellinger.

Fenton entered the military in 1976 upon graduating high school. He attended Basic

Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Leonard Wood as a Combat Engineer. His first assignment was with the 558th Military Police Company in Kersfeld, Germany. Fenton was assigned to weapons platoon and given the vital responsibility of guarding nuclear warheads. This assignment set the stage for a sergeant major in the making. There was no doubt he would make the rank, except in the mind of his drill sergeant from Basic Training. When asked what his goal is in the Army, young Fenton replied, "to retire a sergeant major." His drill sergeant laughed in his face. So when Fenton was pinned sergeant major he looked up his former drill sergeant on the AKO white pages and emailed him a copy of his appointment orders.

Fenton has held numerous leadership assignments in locations around the globe, including five tours to Southwest Asia. Fenton served as Command Sergeant Major, Port of Kuwait and Operations Sergeant Major, US Corps of Engineers, in Baghdad. Prior to his assignment with the 3-315th TSBn, Fenton served as the Command Sergeant Major for the Afghanistan Engineer District in Kabul. When recounting his tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, Fenton commended the Soldiers he served



Spec. Kevin Harrison

HONORS - Lt. Col. David Knellinger, commander, 3rd Battalion, 315th Engineer Training Support Regiment, left, presents the Bronze Order of the De Fleury Medal to Sgt. Major Thomas C. Fenton, 3rd Battalion, 315th Engineer Training Support Regiment at Fenton's retirement ceremony Sept. 18. The medal is awarded for inspirational leadership to the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

with and their dedication to liberating those who had been oppressed for so long.

"My tours of duty have taken me all around the world and shown me many things," said Fenton.

He recalls an older Iraqi woman leaving the polling station displaying her blue finger, proud that she could vote freely. Fenton's voice started to break as he explained the joy

that came to a young Iraqi girl when he pulled a stuffed teddy bear out of his armor pocket and gave it to her.

Tears came to his eyes when talking about training an Afghani soldier on how to tie in rebar so the wall he just built wouldn't fall over. Missions like these during his 31 years in the military are Fenton's pride and joy, he said. The camaraderie, mentoring Sol-

diers, his Army family and the smiles from strangers in strange places, is what Fenton will miss the most.

"I am honored to have served these 31 years and if asked, I would do it again without hesitation," said Fenton.

Fenton's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal (with oak leaf cluster), the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Army Achievement Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the Reserve Component Achievement Medal three oak leaf clusters, the Afghan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary/Service Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M device, 4th award, the NATO Medal, two Kuwait-Liberation medals (Saudi Arabia and Kuwait), the Combat Action Badge, the Parachutist Badge, and the Driver/Mechanic Badge.

His military education includes PNCOC, BNCOC, ANCOC, the First Sergeants Course, the Sergeants Major

Academy, the Basic Airborne School, the Nuclear Weapons Custodial Training Course, the IED Master Gunners Course, the Recruiting and Retention Course, Recondo School, and Jungle Warfare School. Fenton also has an Associate's Degree in Business Management from Park University, El Paso, Texas.

Fenton was presented the Bronze Order of the De Fleury Medal, the Army Engineer Regimental award. The medal was awarded for inspirational leadership to the United States Army Corps of Engineers and in recognition of his outstanding service and significant contribution to the Engineer Regiment.

Fenton also received the Army Meritorious Medal for exceptional meritorious service to the country for over 31 years and particularly his service to the 3-315th TSBn. Lastly, Fenton received a United States flag and the United States Army retired lapel pin.

Although his retirement ceremony marks the end of his military career, it won't be the end of civil service for this now-retired sergeant major.

When asked his future plans, Fenton replied with a smile, "My plan, when I really decide to retire, is to buy about 15 Harleys, take them down to my property in Costa Rica and rent them to tourists."

Soldier gets medal for valiant deed

Sgt. Nicole Dykstra
72nd Field Artillery Brigade

Cpl. Eric Easter is a hero, but he'll never tell you so. His former commander, on the other hand, had nothing but praise for the 24-year-old Army Reserve Soldier as he presented him with the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, (ARCOM) Sept. 19.

"His courage and dedication

are unlike any Soldier of his age whom I have ever worked with," said Lt. Col. Ed Larkin, who was Easter's brigade commander while in Afghanistan. "He is just an incredible Soldier, and I am so proud to be here today to celebrate his hard work."

Easter was a member of an embedded Mobile Training Team assigned as ambassadors to the Afghan National Army, 1st Kandak (Battalion), 1st

Brigade, 201st Corps, just south of Kabul. They were tasked with training and mentoring the 36 Afghan Soldiers at a small firebase in the Kharwar River Valley.

"Being embedded with the Afghan army is a lot different from being on an installation where you are among friends," said retired sergeant major Mike Welsh, who served as Easter's brigade sergeant major in Afghanistan. "We lived with the Afghan Soldiers, ate with them, trained them, and fought with them."

The Mobile Training Team also instructed proper techniques for reacting to an ambush, manning a vehicle checkpoint, clearing rooms and buildings, and searching vehicles and detainees.

"We helped show the leadership how to use their non-commissioned officer corps, and taught the NCOs to take initiative on their own," said Easter.

Easter, a native of Atco, is modest and matter-of-fact when speaking about the event leading to his ARCOM with valor.

"That night there was a complex attack right before midnight, and I happened to be the only American still awake," he said. "We started receiving an RPG [rocket-propelled grenade] attack, so immediate-

ly I yelled 'incoming' and started to wake up everyone on the first floor."

He then ran to his vehicle to get his body armor on, during which time three or four more RPGs landed in the firebase. The firebase was also receiving small arms and machine gun fire by that time, he said.

"There were still some Afghan Soldiers on the second floor, so I climbed the ladder to get up there and went to make sure everyone was awake. Then an RPG exploded less than two meters away from me."

The explosion resulted in shrapnel wounds on Easter's head, and he briefly blacked out, he said.

"The next thing I knew I was up on the roof, so I started directing the Afghan Soldiers with me to return fire," said Easter.

When he heard he was going to receive an ARCOM with valor, he was surprised.

"I felt like I was just doing my job, doing what I was supposed to do. I never felt like I deserved anything for it," he said.

Larkin, however, wished

he'd been able to present Easter with a higher award. "I would have given him a Bronze Star if I could have," he said. "You are looking at a future leader." Welsh told the audience at Easter's award ceremony, and asked for another round of applause for his bravery. "He is rock solid and excellent in any situation you put him in."

Easter is currently assigned to 2-312nd Training Support Battalion, 72nd Field Artillery Brigade at Fort Dix as an instructor/trainer at the Blue Force Tracker course.



Sgt. Nicole Dykstra

VALIANT - Cpl. Eric Easter receives the Army Commendation Medal with Valor from his former brigade commander, Lt. Col. Ed Larkin on Fort Dix, Sept. 19. While deployed to Afghanistan last year, Easter showed bravery in the face of indirect and direct fire by ensuring fellow Soldiers were alert and returning fire during the attack.

Announcements

Cinema Schedule

754-5139
McGuire Air Force Base

Friday, Sept. 26 @ 7:30 p.m.

Death Race- Kiefer Sutherland, Paula Patton, Amy Smart, Mary Beth Peil, Cameron Boyce - An ex-cop becomes a night security guard at a long-closed department store that was ravaged by fire. He discovers that the store's mirrors harbor a horrific secret that threatens his family.

MPAA Rating: R- violence and language
Run time: 1 hr. 45 min.

Saturday, Sept. 27 @ 3 p.m.

Star Wars: The Clone Wars- Matt Lanter, Ashley Eckstein, James Arnold Taylor - On the front lines of an intergalactic struggle between good and evil, fans young and old will join such favorite characters as Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Padmé Amidala, along with brand-new heroes like Anakin's padawan learner, Ahsoka. Sinister villains are poised to rule the galaxy. Stakes are high, and the fate of the Star Wars universe rests in the hands of the daring Jedi Knights.

MPAA Rating: PG-Sci-fi action, violence, brief language, smoking
Run time: 1 hr. 38 min.

Sat., Sept. 27 @ 7:30 p.m.

Tropic Thunder- Ben Stiller, Jack Black, Robert Downey, Jr., Nick Nolte, Steve Coogan - Tugg Speedman, pampered action superstar, sets out for Southeast Asia to take part in the biggest, most-expensive war movie produced. But soon after filming begins, he and his co-stars, Oscar-winner Kirk Lazarus, comic Jeff Portnoy and the rest of the crew, must become real soldiers when fighting breaks out in that part of the jungle.

MPAA Rating: R- language, sexual ref., violent content and drug use
Run Time: 1 hr. 47 min.

Future Features...

Friday, Oct. 3 @ 7:30 p.m.

Mirrors - R, Strong violence, disturbing images, and brief nudity

Saturday, Oct. 4 @ 3 p.m.

The Longshots - PG, some thematic elements, mild language and brief rude humor

Sat., Oct. 4 @ 7:30 p.m.

The Rocker - PG-13, drug and sexual references, nudity, language

Chapel Services

562-2020

Sunday Services

Combined Protestant/Gospel Service will be held on Sunday, Sept. 14 at Willow Pond Park, corner of 8th Street and Texas Avenue at 10 a.m. Following the combined service a picnic will be held. All are invited and welcome to attend.

Protestant.....9 to 10 a.m.
Catholic Mass.....10:15 to 11:15 a.m.
Gospel.....11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CCD.....9:15 to 10 a.m.

Chapel 5 - Bldg. 5950,
Church Street
General Protestant Service
6:30 p.m.

Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent
Hour of Power
Protestant.....8 to 9 a.m.
Catholic.....8 to 9 a.m.
Mormon.....8 to 9 a.m.
Jewish.....8 to 9 a.m.

Religious Services

Jewish High Holy Days

Monday, Sept. 29

Rosh Hashanah
Candle lighting 6:24 p.m.
Service 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Shacharis & Shofar blowing 9 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv 6:25 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 1

Shacharis & Shofar blowing 9 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv 6:25 p.m.

Islamic Prayer room

Open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday
Room 24

Christian Men of the Chapel
Prayer Breakfast - Fourth Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Marriage Course

Wednesdays beginning Oct. 8
No attendance fees. Free childcare provided. Registration required.
Dinner and dessert provided
6:30 p.m.

For more information:
Leona Rader, ACS (609) 562-5200,
leona.rader@us.army.mil or
Chaplain Raub (609) 562-2349/2020,
allen.j.raub@us.army.mil.

ACS

562-2767

Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue

Calendar of Events

Monday, Sept. 29

Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun
(Birth to 6 years) Part 3
10 a.m. - Noon, ACS

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Small Business Seminar
5:30 - 7 p.m., ACS

Wednesday, Oct. 1

Transition Asst. Workshop
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Timmermann Center

Joint Base Proclamation Signing for Domestic Abuse Prevention Month
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
305 Med. Group Conf. Rm 108

Thursday, Oct. 2

Everything You Need to Know About Money: Credit
1:30 - 2:30 ACS

Thurs. and Friday, Oct. 2-3

Transition Asst. Workshop
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Timmermann Center

Recreation Center

Bldg. 5905 (Military Only)

Monday thru Friday.....4 to 10 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday.....noon to 10 p.m.

Bowling Center

Bldg. 6054 562-6895
*Monday Night Madness 5 to 10 p.m.
\$2 Bowling, \$1 Shoe Rental

Youth Center

562-5061
Bldg. 1279 Locust Street

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday 2 - 7 p.m.
Saturday 1 - 7 p.m.
Sunday CLOSED

Administrative Hours:
Tuesday - Friday Noon-6 p.m.

Weekly Schedule

Monday -Friday

Power Hour, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Computer Lab, 4-6 p.m.

Arts & Crafts

Bldg. 6039 562-5691

Registration Hours:

Tues. 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.;
Wed. & Thurs. noon - 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.-8:45 p.m.; Fri. 11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

***Surprise in a Box!** - Oct. 2
6:15 - 9:00pm, \$20 fee.
It's back! The class everybody loves. All levels of sewing are welcome but you must know how to use a machine. All materials are included in the box and the project is a surprise. No peeking.

***Creative K-9's** - Attention all dog lovers!! Saturday, Oct. 4, 11am-2pm.

Register now! Fee of \$7 includes all 3 canine crafts, and additional 4 legged family members are just \$5.

Bring your loveable pooch to create some "paw"fectly awesome artwork on canvas, clay, and bandanas. We'll be taking doggie portraits with specially priced photo packages available. The entire family can enjoy grilled hot dogs and other refreshments, and we'll have a special treat for Fido.

***Introduction to World Crafts**
Ages 6 & up, Oct. 4- Nov. 1, Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. -4:00 p.m. \$30
Take a journey across the globe during this exciting multicultural crafts class. Learn how to create Indonesian Batik, Egyptian Metal Tooling, Japanese Calligraphy, and African Printmaking.

***Kids Pottery Course (Ages 6-9)**
Oct. 4, 18, 25 (3 weeks) Saturdays 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., \$25
Classes cover both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Pre-registration required.

***Tween Pottery Course (Ages 10-13)** Oct. 4, 18, 25 (3 weeks) Saturdays 1:00 p.m. -2:30p.m., \$25
Classes cover both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Pre-registration required.

***Sony Picture Station** - Do it yourself instant, high quality prints are easy to create and affordable too. Sizes are available from wallets to 8" x 10". Personalize your prints with wording, borders, picture collages, scrapbook pages, cards, calendars, and more. Just slip in the card from your digital camera, or a photo CD, and you're ready to print! Scan some old photos and burn them onto a CD, or just copy onto a CD from your memory card.

FMWR presents

CLUB DIX - 723-3272

Club Dix Hours of Operation

Java Café

Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch Served

Tuesday -Friday 11 a.m. -1:30 p.m.
Saturday - Monday Closed

Bar Hours

Wednesday 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Thursday - Saturday 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday - Tuesday Closed

Computer Lab

Monday & Tues. 7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday - Friday 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday noon - 10 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Equipment Rental Center

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

John Mann Park

Open Columbus Day
Oct. 13 - 1p.m. - 6 p.m.

Fall hours of operation

Saturday and Sunday 1 - 6 p.m.

***Operation Rising Star** - Sept. 26, 7 to 10 p.m. - Final contest

***Latin Arts Festival at Doughboy Field** - Sept. 27, noon to 5 p.m. - Featuring comedian George Diaz and performing artists Frankie Negron & Oro Solido. Admission free.

***BUNCO at Club Dix** - October 10 at 6 p.m. - \$7 to play. Games begin at 7 p.m. Call 723-3272 or 723-3273 for details.

***Soldier Show at Timmermann Theatre** - October 12, two performances - noon and 6 p.m. Admission free.

***Sesame Street Experience** - USO Sesame Street Live at Timmermann Theatre - Oct. 18 - Time to be determined. Admission free.

***Horseback Riding- D & D Stables- Buena, NJ \$50** - Oct. 18- Bring the family out and join Outdoor Recreation for a relaxing 1 hour trail ride in south jersey on over 100 acres of wooded trails and fields. Horses are available for beginner to advanced riders. Must be at least 10 years of age to ride. For those under 10 pony rides are available for \$5. Don't forget the camera or your lunch and wear comfortable clothes. Leave ODR 9 a.m.

SPORTS

East Coast Wrestling invades Griffith

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

Electrifying, bone-crunching action shook the Griffith Field House when East Coast Professional Wrestling came to the post Sept. 18.

Though the crowd was sparse, grapplers from the world of the squared circle put on an outstanding show. Kids in the crowd clung to the steel rail barricades shouting taunts and yells at the wrestlers while the rest of the audience joined

in. The crowd was treated to eight matches of dropkicking, body-slammings battles, where good guys and bad guys took turns punishing each other with grueling moves and thunderous poundings.

The first match had bad boy Judas Young face off against Gunner Trash in a bout where the advantage varied from one fighter to the other. Strength and speed were the assets employed by Young that finally saw him defeat Trash with a little outside help from Crazy

Ivan. The second match pitted heavyweights Andrew Anderson, of the famous Minnesota wrestling Andersons, against Dan Inferno. Inferno raised the ire of the audience as he made excuse after excuse to the referee why he needed a break in the match. When the juggernauts finally locked up they rained heavy blows upon one another. Anderson took the lead when he scooped up Inferno and delivered a couple of powerful body slams. The bout ultimately made its way outside the ring to the floor where both men were eventually counted out.

Match three had the popular Red Hot Russ versus Crazy Ivan, a 'reject from the New Jersey penal system.' A pretty evenly matched bout of power and high flying maneuvers kept the crowd enraptured until Russ got the edge on Ivan and Young decided to interfere in the match. Ivan and Young joined forces against Russ until Trash charged the ring to rescue his friend.

The proverbial gauntlet was thrown down as Russ challenged Ivan and Young to a tag-team match. The announcer made it official and the match continued as Russ and Trash took out their frustrations on Ivan and Young. While Trash and Ivan fought on the floor outside the ring Russ pinned Young for the three count.

Jay Santana and Mike Quest spent as much time in the air as they did on their feet as the next match showcased the speed, agility and aerial dexterity of both wrestlers. Flying shoulder blocks and clotheslines accompanied by heavy chops and arm drags kept this bout exciting and in the end Santana defeated Quest.

One of the more exciting matches in the evening's wrestling repertoire was the Over the Top Rope Battle Royal, and the folks in the Field House were witness to a good one. An added bonus to the match was that the winner would get to participate later in a Three Way Heavyweight Championship match in the evening.

Ten grapplers entered the ring and, one at a time, were ejected over the top rope to the floor, eliminating them from the bout. Alliances were made and broken while inflicting great pain upon each other in the effort to win a shot at the champion. When the dust cleared and only one wrestler stood in the middle of the ring, it was Santana who was awarded a shot at the gold.

Still recovering from the battle royal and his previous matches, Santana put up a valiant fight against Brolly and the champ, Dan 'De Man.'

Brolly hammered the champ with devastating blows that caused Dan to reel under the impact. Although Santana made repeated attempts to be a big factor in the match, he finally crumpled to the mat under the ferocious onslaught of power from both Dan and Brolly. Dan, as usual, was able to overcome the beating he endured from Brolly and take



Wayne Cook

AERIAL ASSAULT — Jay Santana hits Mike Quest with a flying clothesline as he unleashed an action-packed, aerial assault that netted him the match, above. Below, Judas Young drags Dan Inferno back into the ring so he can unload a barrage of punishing blows during the Over the Top Rope Battle Royal at Griffith Field House Sept. 18.



Steve Snyder



photos by Wayne Cook

FLYING HIGH — Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, above, an icon in professional wrestling, finishes off the Russian Assassin with his famous Superfly Splash off the ropes, at the Griffith Field House Sept. 18. Gunner Trash prepares to deliver some devastation to Judas Young during the opening match of the evening, below. Young prevailed over Trash with a little outside intervention from Crazy Ivan.

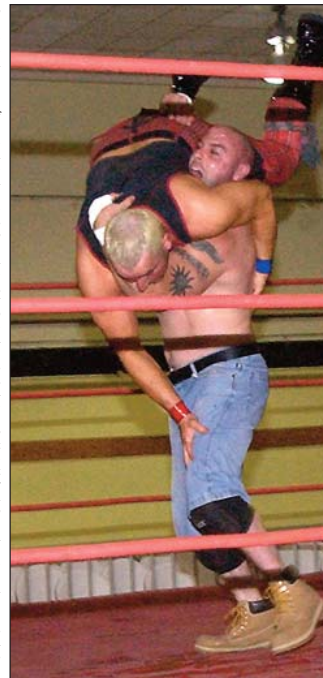
out the much bigger man to retain his championship title. He took a few moments to celebrate with those in the audience and have his picture taken with the children.

The main event of the evening featured one of the biggest icons in the sport of entertainment wrestling, Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, a veteran of nearly four decades in the squared circle, has entertained fans all across the nation in the largest venues and the smaller independent organizations. Known mostly for his performances in the early to mid 1980s as a member of the World Wrestling Federation roster, and by his signature finishing move, the Super Splash, where he would seemingly 'fly' off the top rope or the top of a steel cage onto his opponent. Snuka has been embraced by fans all around the globe.

At 65, Snuka still performs for his fans and, in his match, he took on the dreaded and much despised Russian Assassin.

Although the Assassin is no slouch in the ring, he wasn't able to overcome the knife-edged chops and constant cheering of the crowd for Snuka to gain an upper hand in the match. Snuka climbed onto the second rope and set the house on fire when he executed a Super Splash onto the prone body of the Assassin, and pinning his foe, one...two...three. The audience erupted in applause for their hero.

The matches ended...the people filed out...the lights were turned off...thus ended another visit from the masters of the squared circle.



Sports Shorts

Griffith Field House
Saturday & Sunday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday
6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Flag Football

Time is running out to sign up for the 2008 Fort Dix Flag football season, which begins in October.

Interested parties can sign up at the Griffith Field House. Call Chris O'Donnell at (609) 562-4888 for more info.

Combat Fitness Challenge

Maximize the benefits of standard physical fitness training at the Griffith Field House.

The Combat Fitness Training Challenge, every Monday and Wednesday from 6-30

a.m. - 7:30 a.m. is an intense military-style group workout given by certified Griffith Field House personal trainers and Army master fitness trainers.

The class includes running, military-style calisthenics and drill exercises, cardio kickboxing and more. Call (609) 562-4888 for more information.

Pool Hours

The Indoor Pool will be closed until Oct. 1.

Weather permitting, the Outdoor Pool is open **Mon. - Fri. 6 a.m. - 8 a.m., and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

More information about the pool can be found by calling (609) 562-2808.

Outdoor Rec.

Horseback Riding - Bring the family out and join Outdoor Recreation Oct. 18 for a

relaxing one-hour trail ride in south Jersey on over 100 acres of wooded trails and fields. Horses are available for beginner to advanced riders. Must be at least 10 years of age to ride.

For those under 10, pony rides are available for \$5. Don't forget the camera or your lunch and wear comfortable clothes.

Trip leaves Outdoor Rec. at 9 a.m. **Cost: \$50.**

Starting Oct. 1, the Equipment Rental Center will resume its normal operating hours of 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

John Mann Park will be open Columbus Day, Oct. 13 from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Fall hours of operation are Saturday/Sunday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. For more information, call 609-562-6667

Beatin' the odds



Ryan Morton

The odds of a golfer hitting a hole-in-one vary depending on a golfer's ability, and which source is referenced. Golf Digest puts an amateur's chance at about 1 in 12,750, with a pro-golfer having a 1 in 3,756 chance. Anthony Manto, at left, beat the odds, hitting an ace during the Commander's Cup, Sept. 10.

Golf took the center stage at Fort Dix again Sept. 20 - 21, with the Fountain Green Senior and Club Championship. Tim Pates was the overall winner, with a score of 148 for two rounds. Kevin Kaufman and Jim Palmore tied for second place, both with 157. Chang Yi won the Championship Low Net. The 2008 Senior Club Champion was Jim Palmore, who won a playoff against Ed Walsh. Kim Torrone was the women's champion, with a score of 185. Donna Tomaselli was the women's runner-up.